

CS01-001



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2822
Application no. 09/912,737

August 2, 2002

TO: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Art Unit 2822 - Examiner J. Brophy

FROM: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572
20 McIntosh Drive
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

SUBJECT: Serial #: 09/912,737
File Date: July 26, 2001
Inventor: Luona Goh, et al.
Examiner: J. Brophy
Art Unit: 2822
Title: A Method to Improve Adhesion of Dielectric Filims in
Damascene Interconnects

21/Election
8/28/02
Ad. Weller
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AUG 21 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Election of Species Requirement in the Office Action dated July 2, 2002. In that office action, applicant was required under 35 U.S.C. 121

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Aug. 2, 2002.

Signature

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761

Date: Aug. 2, 2002

to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable, and that currently no claim is generic.

The species stated are:

- 1) A method that comprises implanting silicon ions into a low dielectric constant material and depositing a TEOS-based silicon oxide layer overlying the low dielectric constant material, illustrated in Figs. 1-9, which reads on Claims 1-6 and 12-17, and
- 2) A method that comprises depositing a silicon-based dielectric layer overlying the low dielectric constant material, wherein the silicon-based dielectric layer is not silicon oxide, illustrated in Figs. 10-13, which reads on Claims 7-11 and 18-22.

Applicant provisionally elects to be examined the species described by the Examiner as Group (1), which reads on Claims 1-6 and 12-17. This election is made with traverse of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.143 for the reasons given in the following paragraphs.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the Requirement for Election of Species given in the Office Action, because of the increased costs applicant would be forced to bear if the two species are separately examined. Furthermore, the field of search must necessarily cover both species, in addition to other related Classes and subclasses, to provide a complete and adequate search.

Withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement, and allowance of the present Patent Application, is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761